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A DECLARATION FROM BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

With the Additionall Reasons last presented to his MAIESTY.

Sabbathi 12. *Martii* 1641.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, that the Declaration with the additionall Reasons last presented to his Majesty, shall be forthwith Printed and published.

Jo. Brown Clerick. Parl.
H. Elsine. Cler. Parl. D. Com.

Whereunto is annexed, His Maiesties SPEECH to the Committe, the 9 of *March*, 1641. when they presented the DECLARATION of both Houses of *Parliament* at *New-maket*.

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JUNE 1, 1916

A DECLARATION TO HIS MAIESTY.

May it please your most excellent Majesty,

Although the expressions of your Majesties Message, the second of this instant Moneth, doe give just cause of sorrow to Us your Majesties *faithfull* Subjects, the Lords and Commons in *Parliament*; yet it is not without some mixture of Confidence and Hope, considering they proceed from the Misapprehensions of our Actions and Intentions, which having no ground of *truth* or *reallity*, may by your Majesties Justice and Wisdome be removed, when your Majesty shall be fully informed, that these *feares* and *jealousies* of Ours, which your Majesty thinks to be Causelesse, and without just grounds, doe necessarily and clearly arise from these dangers and distempers, into which the mischievous and evill Councellors about you have brought this Kingdome: and that those other *feares* and *jealousies* by which your favour, your Royall presence and Confidence have bin withdrawn from your *Parliament*, have no foundation or subsistence in any Action, Intention, or Miscarriage of Ours, but are meerly grounded upon the falshood and malice of those, who for the supporting and fomenting their own wicked designes against the

the Religion and Peace of this Kingdome, doe seek to deprive your Majesty of the strength and affection of your People, them of your Grace and protection; and thereby to subject both your Royall person and the whole Kingdome to ruine and destruction.

To satisfie your Majesties Judgement and Conscience in both these points, We desire to make a cleare and free *Declaration*, of the Causes of our *feares* and *jealousies*, which We offer to your Majestie in these particulars.

1. That the designe of Altering Religion, in this, and in your other Kingdomes, hath bin potently carryed on by those in greatest Authority about you, for divers yeares together; and that the Queens Agent at *Rome*, and the Popes Agent at *Nuncio* here, are not only evidences of this designe, but have bin great Actors in it.

2. That the Warres with *Scotland* was procured to make way for this Intention; and chiefly incited and fomented by the Papists, and others Popishly affected, wherof we have many evidences, especially their free and generall Contribution to it.

3. That the Rebellion in *Ireland* was framed and contrived here in *England*; and that the English Papists should have risen about the same time, We have divers testimonies and Advertisements from *Ireland*; and that it is a common speech among the Rebells, wherewith concurre other Evidences and observations of the suspitious Meetings and Consultations; the tumultuary and seditious carriage of those of that Religion, in divers parts of the Kingdome, about the breaking out of the Irish Rebellion; the Deposition of *O Conneli*; the Information of Mr *Cole* Minister; the Letter of *Prestram Whitcomb*; the Deposition of *Thomas Crant*; and many others, which we may produce doe all agree in this.

4. The

4. The publicke *Declaration* of the Lords, Gentlemen, and others of the *Pale*, that they would joyne with the Rebells, whom they call the Iriſh Army, or any other, to recover unto his Majeſty his Royall Prerogative, wreſted from him by the *Puritan* Faction in the Houſes of *Parliament* in *England*, and to maintaine the ſame againſt all others; as alſo to maintaine Epiſcopall juriſdiction, and lawfulneſſe thereof, theſe two being the Quarrells upon which his Majeſties late Army in the North ſhould have bin incenſed againſt us.

5. The great Cauſe we have to doubt, that the late deſigne, ſtyled The Queens pious Intention, was for the Alteration of Religion in this Kingdome: for ſucceſſe whereof the Popes *Nuncio*, and *Count Roſetti* injoyned Faſting and Praying to be obſerved every week, by the Engliſh Papiſts, which appeared to Us by one of the Originall Letters directed by him to a Prieſt in Lancaſhire.

6. The boldnes of the Rebells in affirming *They doe nothing but by Authority from the King*; that they call themſelves the *Queens Army*; that the Prey or Booty which they take from the Engliſh, they marke with the Queens Marke. That their purpoſe was to come into *England*, after they had done in *Ireland*: and ſundry other things of this kind proved by *O Connels*, and divers others; eſpecially the aforementioned Letter from *Treſtram Whitecombe* the Major of *Kinſale* to his Brother *Benjamin Whitecomb*, wherein there is this paſſage, that *Many other ſpeeches they utter about Religion and our Court of* England, *which he dares not commit to paper.*

The manifold Attempts to provoke your Majeſties late Army, and the Army of the Scots, and to raiſe a Faction in the City of *London* and other parts of the Kingdome; that thoſe who have bin Actors in this buſineſſe, have had their

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Dependance, Countenance and Incouragement from the Court, witnesse the Treason wherof Mr *Germin* and others stand accused, who were transported beyond Sea by Warrant under your Majesties hand, after your Majesty had given Assurance to your *Parliament* that your Majesty had layd a strict command upon all your Servants, that none of them should depart from Court; and that dangerous Petition delivered to Captaine *Legge* by your Majesties owne hand, accompanied with a Direction signed with *C. R.*

The false and scandalous Accusation against the Lord *Kymbolton*, and the Five *Members* of the House of Commons, tendred to the *Parliament*, by your Majesties owne Command, endeavouring to be justified in the City by your own presence and perswasion; and to be put in execution upon their Persons, by your Majesties demand of them in the *House* of *Commons*, in so terrible and violent a manner, as farre exceeded all former breaches of Priviledges of *Parliament*, acted by your Majesty, or any of your Predecessors: And whatsoever your own Intentions were, divers bloody and desperate persons, which attended your Majesty, discovered their affections and resolutions to have massacred and destroyed the *Members* of that *House*; if the absence of those Persons accused, had not by *Gods* providence stopt the giving of that Word which they expected, for the setting them upon that barbarous and bloody designe.

The Listing of so many Officers, Souldiers and others, putting them into pay, and under Command of Colonells, keeping them at *white Hall*, Feasting and carousing them in an unusuall manner, thereby maintaining them in the violent Assaults, and other injuries, which they offered to divers of your Subjects, comming that way in a Lawfull

and

and peaceable manner; the carrying them out of the Town, and keeping them in so long a Pay, after which they were told by the Lord *Digby* that *the King removed on purpose they might not be trampled in the durt*; and endeavouring to ingage the Gentlemen of the Innes of Court in the same course; the plotting and designing of a perpetuall Guard about your Majesty; the labouring to infuse into your Majesties Subjects an evill opinion of the *Parliament* throughout the whole Kingdome, and other symptomes of a disposition of raysing Armes, and dividing your People by a Civill Warre, in which Combustion *Ireland* must needs be lost, and this Realme miserably wasted and consumed, if not wholly ruined and destroyed.

That the Lord Digby *should presume to Councell your Majesty to declare your selfe, and to retire to a place of strength in this Kingdome, and to perswade you that you could not be safe among your People, and yet should have such Credit with you as to be sent away by your Warrant to Sir* John Pennington, *to land him beyond the Sea, where he took that transcendent boldnesse to vent his owne Trayterous conceptions in the Letter to the Queene*, offering to entertaine a correspondencie with her Majesty by Cyphers, intimating some service which he might doe in those parts; for which he desired your Majesties Intentions, whereby in all probability he intended the procureing of some Forreigne Forces to strengthen your Majestie in that condition to which hee would have brought: which false and malicious Councell and advice, we have great cause to doubt, made too deep an impression in your Majesty, considering the course you are now pleased to take, of absenting your selfe from your Parliament, ang carrying the Prince with you, which seems to expresse a purpose in your Majesty to keep your self in a Readinesse for the acting of it.

The

The manifold Advertiſements we have had from *Rome*, *Venice*, *Paris*, and other patts, that they ſtill expect that you have ſome great deſigne in hand, for the Altering of Religion; the breaking neck of your Parliament; that you will yet find meanes to compaſſe that deſigne; that the Popes *Nuncio* hath ſollicited the Kings of *France* and *Spaine* to lend your Majeſty 4000. men a piece to helpe to maintain your Royalty againſt the Parliament, *and this uſ foreigne force ſeemeth to be the moſt pernicious and malignant deſigne of all the reſt*, becauſe no man can beleeve you will give up your people and your Kingdome to be ſpoiled by Strangers, if you did not likewiſe intend both to change your own profeſſion in Religion, and the publicke profeſſion of the Kingdome, that ſo you might ſtill be more aſſured of thoſe forreigne ſtates of the Popiſh Religion for your future ſupoort and defence; but we hope *God* will direct your Majeſtie to better Councells.

Theſe are ſome of the grounds of our feares and jealouſies, which made us ſo earneſtly to implore your royall Authoritie and Protection for our defence and ſecuritie, in all the wayes of humilitie and ſubmiſſion, which being denyed by your Majeſtie, ſeduced by evill Councells, We doe with ſorrow, for the great and inavoydable miſerie, which is like to fall upon your own perſon, and your Kingdomes, apply our ſelves to the uſe of that Power, for the ſecuritie and defence of both, which by the fundamentall Laws and Conſtitutions of this Kingdome, reſides in Us: Yet ſtill reſolving to keep our ſelves within the bounds of Faithfullneſſe and Allegeance to your ſacred perſon, and your Crownes: ſo as to the Second ſort of *jealouſies* and *feares*, of Us expreſt by your Majeſtie, We ſhall give a ſhorter, but as true and as faithfull an Anſwere.

Whereas your Majeſty is pleaſed to ſay that for your reſiding

siding neere your *Parliament*, you wish it might be so safe and honourable that you had noe cause to absent your selfe from White-hall, this we take as the greatest breach of the priviledges of Parliament that can be offered, the heaviest miserie to your selfe, and jniurie to us, and Impunation upon us, that can be imagined, the most mischeivous effect of evill Counsells, it rootes up the foundation of that safety and honour which the Crowne affords, it seems as much as may be to cast upon the *Parliament* such a charge as is inconsistent with the nature of your great Counsel being the body whereof your *Majesty* is the head, it striks at the very being both of King and Parliament depriving our *Majesty* in your owne apprehension of their fidelity and them of your protection, which are the mutual bonds of Government and subiection.

We have according to your *Maiesties* desire laid our hands upon our hearts, we have asked our selves in the strictest examination of our Consciences, we have searcht our affections, our thoughts, considered our actions, and we find non that can give your *Maiesty* nay just occasion to absent your self from White-hall and the Parliament but that you may with more honour and safety continue there then in any other place, your *Maiesty* laies a generall Taxe upon us, if you will be graciously pleased to let us konw the particulars wee shall give a cleere and satisfactory answer but what hope can we have of ever giving your *Maiesty* satisfaction when the particulars which you have bin made beleeve were true yet being produced and made known to us appeared to be false, and your *Maiesty* notwithstanding will neither punish nor produce the authors, but goe on to contract Jealousies and feares upon generall and uncertaine grounds affording us no meanes or possibility of particular Answer to the cleering of ourselves: For proofe whereof we beseech your *Maiesty* to consider these

The ſpeeches alledged to be ſpoken in a meeting by divers Members of both *Houſes* at *Kenſington*, concerning a purpoſe of reſtraining the Queene and Prince which after it was denied and diſavowed, yet your *Maieſty* refuſed to Name the Authors though humbly deſired of both *Houſes*

The report of Articles framed againſt the Queene given out by ſome of neere relation unto the Court, but when it was publiquely and conſtantly diſclaimed, the Credit ſeemed to bt with-drawn from it but the Authors being kept ſafe will alwaies be in readineſſe for exploits of the ſame kind where with your Majeſtie and the Queene will be troubled if this courſe be taken to cheriſh and ſecure them in ſuch wicked and malicious ſlanders.

The heavy Charge and accuſation of the Lord *Kimbol.ton* and the five Members of the *Houſe* of *Commons*, who refuſe no Triall and examination which may ſtand with the Priviledge of Parliament yet no Author, noe witneſſes produced, againſt whom they may have reparation for that great injury and infamy caſt upon them notwithſtanding three ſeverall Petitions of both Houſes, the Authority of two Acts of Parliament vouched in the laſt of theſe Petitions.

We beſeech your Majeſtie to conſider in what eſtate you are, how eaſy and faire a way you have to happineſſe, honour, greatneſſe, plenty and ſecurity: If you will joyn with the Parliament and your faithfull Subjects in defence of the *Religion* and the publique good of the Kingdom: This is all we expect from you and for this wee ſhall returne to you our lives and fortunes & utmoſt endeavours to ſupport your Maieſty, your *juſt* Soveraignty & power over us, but it is not words that can ſecure us in theſe our humble deſires, we cannot but two well and ſorowfully remember what gracious Meſſages we had from you this Summer, when with your privity the bringing up the Army

my was in agitation, we cannot but with the like affe&i-on recal to our minds, how not two dayes before you gave direction for the above mentioned accuſation and your owne comming unto the Commons Houſe, that houſe re-ceived a Meſſage, that you would alwaies hav care of their Priviledges as of your owne Prerogative, of the ſafety of their Perſons as of your owne Children That which wee expect from youwhich wilgive us aſſurance that you have no thoughts but of peace & Iuſtice to your people, muſt be ſome reall effect of your goodneſſe to them in graunting thoſe things which the preſent neceſſity of the *Kingdom* do inforce us to deſire, and in the firſt place, that your Majeſty will be graciouſly pleaſed to put from you thoſe wicked and miſcheivous Counſellors which have cauſed all theſe dangers and diſtractions, and continue your own reſidence and the Princes neer London and the parliament Which we hope wilbe a happy beginning of contentment and confidence betwixt your Majeſty and your People, and be followed with many ſucceeding bleſſings of honour and greatneſſe to your Majeſty, and of ſecurity and proſperity to them.

The Additionall Reaſons.

THe Lords and Commons have commanded us to preſent unto your Majeſty this further Addition to their former Declaration.

That your Majeſties return and continuance neer the Parliament is a matter in their apprehenſion of ſo great neceſſiy and importance towards the preſervation of your Royall Perſon and your Kingdoms, that they cannot think they have diſcharged their duties in the ſingle expreſſ of their deſire, unleſſe they add ſome further Reaſons to back it with.

I. *Your Majeſties abſence will cauſe men to believe, that it is out of deſigne to diſcourage the undertakers, and hinder the other Proviſions for raiſing money for defence of* Ireland.

II. *It will very much hearten the Rebells there, and diſaffected perſons in this Kingdome, as being an evidence, and effect of the jealouſie and diviſion betwixt your Majeſty, and your people.*

III. *That it will much weaken and withdraw the affection of the Subject from your Majeſty, without which a Prince is deprived of his chiefeſt ſtrength and luſtre, and left naked in the greateſt dangers and miſeries, that can be imagined.*

IIII. *That it will invite and encourage the Enemies of our Religion and the State in Forreigne Parts, to the attempting and acting of their evill deſignes and intentions towards us.*

V. *That it cauſeth a great interuption in the proceedings of Parliament.*

Theſe conſiderations threaten ſo great danger to your Majeſties perſon

they hold it neceſſary to repreſent to You, this their faithfull Advice that ſo whatſoever followeth, they may be excuſed before God and Man.

His Maieſties Speech to the Committee, the 9. of *March*, 1641. when they preſented the Declaration of both Houſes of Parliament at *New-market*.

I Am confident that you expect not I ſhould give you a ſpeedy Anſwer to this ſtrange and unexpected Declaration. And I am ſorry (in the diſtraction of this Kingdome you ſhould think this way of addreſſe to be more convenient, than that purpoſed by my Meſſage of the 20 of Ianuary laſt to both Houſes.

As concerning the grounds of your feares and Iealouſies, I will take time to anſwer particularly, and doubt not but I ſhall doe it, to the ſatisfaction of the whole world. God in his good time will I hope, diſcover the ſecrets of all Plots and Treaſons; and then I ſhall ſtand right in the eyes of all my people. In the mean time I muſt tell you, That I rather expected a Vindication for the imputation layd on me in Mr PYMS Speech, than that any more generall Rumors and Diſcourſes ſhould get redit with you

For my feares and doubts, I did not think they ſhould have beene thought ſo groundleſſe or triviall, while ſo many ſeditious Pamphlets and Sermons are looked upon, and ſo great Tumults are remembred, unpuniſhed, uninquired into: I ſtill confeſſe my fears, and call God to witneſſe, That they are greater for the true Proteſtant Profeſſion, My People and Laws, than for my own Right or ſafety, though I muſt tell you, I conceive that none of theſe are free form danger.

What would you have? Have I violated your Lawes? Have I denyed to paſſe any one Bill for the eaſe and ſecurity of my Subjects? I do not aske you what you have done for me.

Have any of my People been tranſport with Feares and Apprehenſions? I have offered as free and generall a Pardon, as your ſelves can deviſe. All this conſidered, There is a Iudgement from Heaven upon this Nation, if theſe diſtractions continue.

God ſo deal with Me and Mine, as all my Thoughts and Intentions are upright for the maintenance of the true Proteſtant Profeſſion, and for the Obſervation and Preverſation of the Laws of this Land: And I hope, God will bleſſe and aſſiſt thoſe Laws for My preſervation.

As for the Additionall Declation, you are to expect an Anſwer to it, when you ſhall receive the Anſwer to the Declaration it ſelfe.

FINIS.